

IN THE TITLE:

Please replace the title with the following:

"A Portable Data Storage Device Capable Of Being Directly Connected Via USB Plug To A Computer (as amended)"

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-8 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims as shown below:

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9. (New) A portable data storage device comprising:
a USB plug adapted to the device to facilitate direct coupling of the device via the USB plug to a USB socket on a computer without wire interconnection;
a memory device including non-volatile solid-state memory; and
a memory control device coupled to the memory device for controlling data flow between the memory device and the USB plug.

10. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 9 further comprising an interface device coupled to the USB plug;

11. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 9 wherein the memory device comprises a read/write memory.

12. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 9 wherein the memory device comprises a flash memory.

13. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 9 wherein the memory comprises a ferroelectric random access memory (FRAM) or a magnetic random access memory (MRAM).

14. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 9 wherein the memory control device comprises a micro-controller.

15. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 14 wherein the micro-controller includes a read only memory which stores a program to control the operation of the micro-controller.

16. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 14 wherein the micro-controller facilitates user authentication to restrict unauthorized users for obtaining access to at least a portion of information stored in the memory device.

17. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 9 wherein the portable data storage device is sufficiently compact to be held within a human hand for maximal portability.

18. (New) A portable data storage device comprising:
a USB plug adapted to the device to facilitate direct coupling of the device via the USB plug to a USB socket on a computer without wire interconnection;
a USB driver coupled to the USB plug;
flash memory; and
a micro-controller coupled to the flash memory, the micro-controller being coupled between the USB driver and the flash memory to control the flow of data.

19. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 18 wherein the micro-controller includes a read only memory which stores a program to control the operation of the micro-controller.

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20. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 18 wherein the micro-controller facilitates user authentication to restrict unauthorized users for obtaining access to at least a portion of information stored in the memory device.

21. (New) The portable data storage device as recited in Claim 18 wherein the portable data storage device is sufficiently compact to be held within a human hand for maximal portability.

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